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SQUARE.

POLICE COURT LAXITY.

There is no department of justice in New York which is so laxly conducted as the police courts. The majority of the justices are not lawyers, and have obtained their positions as rewards for political services, without consideration as to their mental qualifications. Indeed, the argument that is brought forward to show that legal education is not necessary to the police magistracy, is that the position is one which requires more common sense than legal training. But even common sense is not always in the police justice; and it is owing to lack of mentality and law that so many blunders occur in the police courts.

Thus, again, because police justices are politicians, and politics in New York City is based on the law of compensation and equivalents, their affiliations often compel them to treat with lenity persons arraigned before them, especially when these persons belong to the political organization of which the justices are part.

The discharge of MICHAEL LALLY, ex-bridge policeman, is a striking comment on the weakness of our police-court system. Perhaps if Justice Hogan had adjourned the case and got all the witnesses before him, he might not have found convicting evidence, but he could not have known this, and he directly violated his duty by neglecting to use every effort to bring LALLY to justice. If the Grand Jury today take up LALLY's case there is no certainty that it could properly indict him, although morally certain of his guilt.

And why is this? Because of the slipshod or worse police court work. When DELATTI was shot all the witnesses were brought to court, but no affidavits were taken, although four sworn statements could have been obtained, any one of which would have sent LALLY to the penitentiary. Instead of this a mere statement was taken from DELATTI, and the three other witnesses, who said they had seen the explosion and the shooting, were sent to the House of Detention, in order that they might not be tampered with, and almost immediately afterwards released on bail so trivial as to render its forfeiture a matter of no moment.

It was known that LALLY had been "pulled," and it was the duty of the Police Justice to take proper precautions in getting affidavits from all the witnesses and to keep them out of reach of any influence that might interfere with the administration of justice. They should have been kept in the House of Detention until the time of trial and LALLY and his friends should never have been allowed to get near them.

Policeman GHOUGH should be attended to by Supt. MURRAY. His connection with the case has an ugly look. Justice HOGAN says that he asked GHOUGH where the three witnesses were, and GHOUGH where he had been unable to find them. This should be investigated, for they were at their adding places where they have been since seen by reporters from half a dozen papers. It remains for the Police Commissioners to decide if GHOUGH did his duty and should remain on the force.

STREET CLEANING OUTPOSTS.

Two systems of street-cleaning, according to the ideas of the committee of business and professional men appointed by Mayor GRANT, are now on trial in this city. The initial effort of one method was made yesterday under the most unfavorable conditions with gratifying results. Under System A the streets, when the men stopped their work at 6 o'clock, were cleaner than they have been for years. Commissioners, Superintendent, foremen and cleaners all admitted this.

The public will see whether the streets are clean or not. If they are found to be properly cared for, then the system by which it is done is good and there is ground for its adoption. Clean streets are what is desired, and the means of cleaning them, unless too discomforting to the citizens or too extravagantly expensive, are a matter of indifference to the public.

It looks as if, after this long waiting, something practical was being done. It is possible to have the streets cleaned, and the way to do it may have arrived. The systems will be given a good trial. Then let the one most effective and desirable be adopted. After that, if the streets are not clean, somebody will be to blame, and it will be known who.

EXCELLENT.

The Rapid Transit Commissioners had a meeting yesterday and considered the report which was presented of the Lower Tunnel system. There are two other plans before the Commission: one for a tunnel under the East River, and the other a street tunnel.

One excellent thing was done, for which the good common sense of the Commission is to be highly praised. It was resolved that hereafter all the business transacted by the Commission should be made public. "This is right." The public wants Rapid Transit, and the interest in it makes it eager to know just what is being done. The Commission has, or should have, no view or device in which the public may not fully participate, and this resolution shows that they are right on it. This spirit is the right one and nobody can feel otherwise.

It seems to be a virtue which has no relation of itself to reward. But when a person re-

turns a valuable thing and is presented by the owner with a pitiful reward, the petty donor is a good encourager to dishonesty. An honest found a fat purse and returned it. The bursting gratitude of the recipient found relief by bestowing one dollar on the finder, who promptly sent it to a public charity. Honesty is a double virtue when its practice entails such affronts as this.

Philadelphia has reached a development which admits of a bill for the construction of an Elevated Railroad, while it finds a barber for shaving a man on Sunday. The City of Brotherly Love should try to expand apherically and not be so bulky in its growth.

THE CLEANER.

At breakfast in the Glissey House the other morning Jim Streiss was discussing his morning's work with two men came in and sat down. They talked for some time and then one of them returned an invitation to take something. The brew decided on by the two was imported whisky. "That is a queer order for two of us," said Mr. Streiss. "The two men who were drinking with him were Henry Abbey and Maurice Gran. I thought that straight vichy as a morning drink was, perhaps, unusual with any one of the three."

I am told that it is still an easy matter to become a lawyer in the second judicial department, and that a number of New Yorkers of doubtful legal ability were admitted to practice in Brooklyn no later than last week.

I noticed in a proclamation box at Niblo's Garden last evening Corporation Attorney Louis Steiker with a party of ladies, to one of whom a girl of rare beauty—she was particularly attractive. The lady in question was Miss Horatia Tuttle, whose engagement with Mr. Steiker was recently announced.

Theatrical Manager Henry Clay Miner, who is anxious to stand as a politician, met with a queer mishap in his first effort of a political nature. As a member of the Tammany Hall Committee of the Eighth Assembly District he presented the resolutions on the death of District Leader George Hall at the recent meeting of the General Committee in the fourteenth street Wigwam. The manager drove into his pocket, produced a paper and handed it up to Secretary McQuirk. The Secretary looked at the paper in astonishment and called the amateur politician back. After examining it in his pocketed Greyhound, he succeeded in finding the resolutions and he made an exchange with Secretary McQuirk for a play bill of one of his numerous theatres which he had just handed up.

I met at the St. James Hotel yesterday Clarence C. Frost, a stalwart, handsome six-footer from Newburgh, Conn., who has just returned from London, where he had been to play some of his valuable Montana mining property. In making comparisons he said: "In the matter of street paving London is far ahead of New York, but they have nothing over there to compare with the handsome big office buildings that have been springing up in the neighborhood of lower Broadway. The Pullman Building surpassed even these in its palaces. It is a magnificent structure, and coming up the harbor it attracted as much attention from the passengers as the Statue of Liberty."

Last night's affair of the stockier affection was a trifle more ambitious than former efforts of that organization in the way of entertainment, but I doubt if, from the standpoint of the members, it was considered to have been as successful. In the first place, the play would have a distracting effect on any theatre party, and then the grand magnificence of the Metropolitan Hotel banquet hall, with its formal American service, and its calculated to please so democratic a gathering as the purely informal supper of Arlington Hall with their accompaniments of music and jollity. I have been with the stockers at both places, and must say that the boys seemed to enjoy themselves much more in the case side hall than in the grand dining-room of the hotel.

How Street-Cleaner Commissioner Beattie's cleaners don't clean was illustrated by a sweeper whom I saw at an early hour this morning on a warm grain in Broadway protected from the rain, and with his big broom for a pillow, calmly smoking the hours away at 5 cents per hour.

If the gentleman whom President Harrison yesterday appointed United States Judge for New Hampshire should call to pay his respects to Mr. White House he would be likely to cause a panic in the breasts of the attendees. Lawyer Edgar A. Litcher, the newly appointed Judge, is physically an exact double of ex-President Cleveland. He was in New York a short time ago, and was associated by every turn of phrase with the late President. He is a Republican, and has never held public office save one term in the Legislature, when he was chosen Speaker of the House.

SPOTLIGHTS.

If in his drawing lessons the artist could learn how to draw bones it would enhance his enjoyment of his profession.

Kaiser Wilhelm has resigned his aspirations to a princely getting out of the footlights.

It isn't hard for a good boy out of care to get a beating with a hungry man.

Weak disappointments from his crew—The deck who smoked it smelt the sea.

A two-foot rule is better grammar for a dancing master than a two-foot rule.

A drum when beaten well is like a boy, all the better for it.

What a new South American republic is most interested in is its capital.

Even a perfectly modest rose may "blow" all its wits to it.

WORLDLINGS.

During the year 1890, 5,325 new books were issued by the American publishing houses.

Gen. Sherman's favorite companion when in Washington was a dog named "Victor." The two were used to go about arm in arm, and were everywhere in public and salutations. Probably no other man in public life was so cordially welcomed in Washington as Gen. Sherman was.

Three of the twenty-three surviving widows of the soldiers of the Revolution now on the nation's payroll live in Windsor County, Vermont.

Jose R. Grant, the President's son, is one of the owners of a silver mine in Sonora, Mexico, and there he passed a great part of his time. He is a quiet, unassuming fellow and quite popular.

Friedrich Wilhelm, the present heir apparent of the German throne, is a boy of nine years.

Legal Fitness.

Mr. Marbury (with his lawyer's bill in his hand): "This charge is a disgrace to the bar." His lawyer (glancing at the bill): "It is a charge against which I defended you!"

Yet Their Interiors Need Attention.

"Why do you think the Indians should be made to wear a War Department instead of a War Office?"

THE WAYS OF WOMAN FAIR.

Fads, Fashions and Fancies That Delight the Gentler Sex.

Nail Trimming is a Go-Size of Cards for Married and Single Women—Mrs. Cleveland's Dress Expenses—Joan of Arc Garters—Queen Victoria's Romance.

Nail trimming is creating for favor. The metallic glaze put on bonnet crowns, collars and cuffs are really dangerous, as many of the heads are conical and stand half an inch in midair. The effect, however, is in fact in securing the height desired. This elaborate manicure may be had in crystal, jet and mock gems.

Here is the bill of expense for a year of polishing in an uptown convent, where special attention is paid to esthetic culture and where French is the language of the institution. Hoard and tuition, per scholar year (ten months), \$200; washing, \$50; use of books and stationery, \$10; use of library, \$5; physician's fees, \$5; use of apparatus, according to class, \$5 to \$10; professors' charges—plain, \$100; hair, \$100; gowns, \$50; shoes, \$10 and \$10 per annum; drawing, \$50; painting, \$100; Latin and modern languages, each, \$50.

Ladies' cards are now made almost square size about two and one-half by three and one-half inches. The engraving is in the plainest script, without any flourishes, well out and printed upon what is called "three sheet" Bristol board. In every case the color is white. The "Mr. and Mrs." card is the largest, size two and five-eighths by four inches. The card for madame alone is somewhat smaller, while that for the unmarried woman measures, to be very exact, two and three-eighths by three and one-quarter inches. The mother's card is often engraved with the name of her daughter or daughters below.

Julie is a fashionable name, and if the engraving on mugs, mirrors, bread and milk sets, small dividers and toilet articles is significant it will play an important part on the roll of fashion twenty years hence.

All unexpectedly the Joan of Arc garters have sprung into favor. These antique stockings are made of elastic woven with copper threads and fastened with a small buckle of carved wood.

Aromatic vinegar is used in vinaigrettes by ladies who do not like salad.

The Entertainment Committee of the National Cross-Country Association of America have decided to hold their annual convention to take place at Central Park, New York City, March 10 and 11. The committee sent out a notice asking for the names of the delegates for members of the Senior and Junior League, to be held at the same time.

This growing up Club, the Park Athletic Club, elected the following officers last evening: Frederick Lawrence, President; John F. Brown, Vice-President; John F. Brown, Treasurer; Harry Jones, Recording Secretary; John F. Brown, Treasurer; George Brown, Treasurer. The club rooms are at 85 Macdougal street.

Mike O'Sullivan is keeping himself in pretty good condition at present and is of the opinion that he still could do the walk among the 100-pounders.

Jack O'Sullivan, President, and Jimmy Carroll, of Brooklyn, two noted pugilists, will play a game of hand-ball on Thursday of this week at Sweigert's.

There is a Brooklyn sporting man who is still of the opinion that the Atlantic and Atlantic are holding the best of the game. He seems to forget the last time the men met.

Dexter Park, Long Island, is rapidly becoming a place of resort for the rich. The new gun club, at least a dozen more clubs will be located there next season.

Paddy Gorman is of the opinion that if the police would have let him have one more round of the stick in the hands of the police he could have finished him.

A baseball crank was speaking of the good old days of baseball when the Atlantic and Atlantic were holding the best of the game. He seems to forget the last time the men met.

Mrs. T. Dewitt Talmadge teaches a large class of Sunday-school pupils. She is a pleasant speaker, has good reasoning powers and a clear-headed mind. She gives the young women besides the usual dose of Scripture a warm handclasp after each lesson.

Lucia di Lammermoor's madbox is the name given to a captivating array of bric-a-brac. They are all of the "bric-a-brac" shape, and it is to say they are made in the three-cornered style to which Miss Ellen Terry has lately given an immense popularity. Apparently, the hats are of goblin-like blue felt. We say apparently, because the reality is a cloth-covered shape, turned up at the three sides with pale blue velvet, and bordered with ornate feathers of the natural fawn hue. A cluster of tiny pebbles over the back.

"There's a turned-down page," as some writer has said in every human life. Even so, comfortable, good-looking Victoria in her stuffy mourning, goes so persistently all these years for her royal consort, has had her romance. Lord Ellenborough, whose death recently took place, was so say an Englishman, a sweetest of the youthful Queen many years ago. The two lovers were very devoted to each other, and the Queen pleaded with her counselors and advisers for the privilege of choosing him as her consort. But with the usual perversity of affairs of the heart, the Queen made the nation's indestructible and reason prevailed over love. Victoria proposed, instead, to the German prince as wedded, and Ellenborough was presented with a commission in the army, which transported him safely out of the way to India, where he distinguished himself as the master of disappointed lovers by his reckless daring and bravery. There are some disadvantages in being a queen and having plenty of spending money. To be required to propose to one's future husband is something of an ordeal, and being compelled to propose to the man the nation chooses, and at the same time sign the papers which banishes the man you love for the very people over whom you are supposed to reign, must be almost as annoying as getting along in life without a coronet or crest. But all that happened years ago, and the royal lady is a great-grandmother now and has forgotten all about such trifles, and is as happy as a pet pussy if only her shoes are loose and easy, if the royal toilet does not forget her favorite dish of white cut dinner, and if her stock of India shawl supplies her wedding presents.

Utterly Impossible.
(From Judge.)
Aunt Green—Have a piece of cake, nephew. Take the biggest piece.
Nephew (from Boston)—Impossible, aunt; there are only two.

Left Untouched.
(From Judge.)
"Well, delicate dresses are no higher than they were last season."
"No; the Mikulsky bill did not affect them."

Wages—What's the hardest thing in the world to do?
(From Judge.)
Aunt Green—To get a legacy—A rich old uncle, I guess.
Nephew—Not a circumstance to a patient for it's a terrible years expiring.

Fastest Atlantic Ocean Passages.
A statement of the quickest eastward and westward Atlantic passages by the great ocean greyhounds appears in THE WORLD ALMANAC for 1891.

CREAM OF SPORTING NEWS.

The American Athletic Club Yet in the Field and Growing.

Financial Reminiscences in Baseball—General Notes and Gossip.

Contrary to all the rumors that have been going the rounds that the American Athletic Club would be something of the past within a very short period, it may be stated on good authority that the club is in a better financial condition at the present time than it has been for the past five years, and everything looks fair for a very prosperous summer season.

The club grounds will be thoroughly renovated and, if found advisable, a new track will be laid and every convenience will be afforded the members to make things as pleasant and agreeable as possible.

The club intends to hold a monster joint boxing tournament with the Friendship Boat Club at the Central Park Hotel some time before the close of the season, when some of the leading amateur fighters will take part. One of the special features of the occasion will be a "goes" between the foremost boxers of America, which will certainly make the tournament a successful one.

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CHAPPIE'S VALENTINE.

(From Harper's Bazar.)



MY DEAR MR. DUCKINS: I am so sorry I can't accept your kind invitation for the opera to-night. Mr. Duckins, whose presence is to be announced this evening, joins me in wishing you all the compliments of the season. Sincerely your friend,
Feb. 14, 1891. Ada G. Higgins.



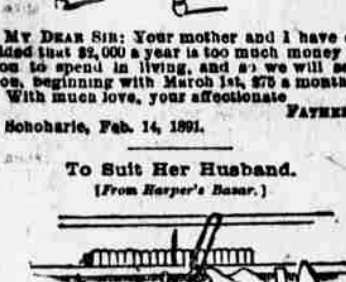
NEW YORK, Feb. 14, 1891.
Mr. G. DEDRING,
To J. SHIP, Merchant Tailor, Dr.
Jan. 1 Account rendered \$150.00
Please remit.



Here's to the man whose ears are really great, whose cheek is greater even than his ears; who holds his wife with his shoulder, and who, when his wife comes over his shoulder, to him this valentine is sent by one who would not be a good wife to any other. His best girl's father's dear little son. Who'll never be dear Ducky's little brother.



MY DEAR SIR: Your mother and I have decided that \$2,000 a year is too much money for you to spend in this city, so we will send you, beginning with March 1st, \$75 a month. With much love, your affectionate father.
Feb. 14, 1891.



To Suit Her Husband.
(From Harper's Bazar.)



An Important Commission.
(From Judge.)



Artie's Friend—Great Scott, Dabber, such a big canvas and an order too! I congratulate you, old man, on your success. Who is the purchaser?
Dabber (offhand)—You'll have to excuse me. That point is a strict secret and I cannot impart it to any one.



A Word in Season.
(From Judge.)



Mr. Carter—Have you been sleigh-riding yet?
Miss Edie Walle—Oh, yes, ever so many times!
Mr. Carter—Ah, then, I suppose you are weary of it. I was about to ask you.
Miss Edie Walle—A goodly party, but I don't weary of it. I would hardly put you.

CHANGES AT THE THEATRES.

First Appearance of Hammerstein's Stock Company in Harlem.

"Nonh's Ark" at Niblo's—Barrett's New Bill at the Broadway.

A new stock company appeared in the city last night, organized by Ocar Hammerstein and destined to make its first appearance at the Theatre at 242 Broadway.

"Nonh's Ark" at Niblo's—Barrett's New Bill at the Broadway.

A melodrama, written by George L. Stout and produced by John Hart, was the attraction at Niblo's last night. It had elaborate scenery, songs, dances and a cast that included Miss Lillian Young, Miss Rachel Booth, Miss Adele Marquetti, Herr Edmund Peterson, William Merrill, Charles Stott, Patrick Murphy, J. L. Ryan, Vernon Charles, Lewis Shaw, George Maddox, George Neville and Baby Derrigan. The play will be continued in Thursday's Evening World.

Lawrence Barrett changed